

MISSISSIPPI WIRELESS COMMUNICATION COMMISSION

April 5, 2007 Meeting Minutes

Place: MDOT 1st floor auditorium

Meeting was called to order at 1:45 pm by Chairman George Phillips.

Commission Members Present:

MS Department of Public Safety	George Phillips
MS Department of Corrections	Chris Epps
MS Department of Information Technology Services	David Litchliter
MS Department of Transportation	Willie Huff
MS Department of Environmental Quality	Clovis Reed
MS Department of Homeland Security	Jay Ledbetter
MS Highway Safety Patrol	Michael Berthay
MS Association of Fire Chiefs	Tom Lariviere
MS Sheriffs Association	James Newman
MS Supervisors Association	Joel Yelverton
MS Department of Health	Brian Amy
MS National Guard	Gary Ladd

Advisory Members Present:

Senator Hob Bryan
Senator Jack Gordon
Senator Tommy Robertson

Chairman George Phillips called the meeting to order at 1:45 pm. He called for a motion to approve the minutes. Chris Epps made a motion to approve the minutes. Tom Lariviere seconded the motion, and it passed with none opposed.

David Litchliter thanked Senator Jack Gordon for his help with the WCC spending authority during the legislative session. He stated that MDOT should be reimbursed for consulting services for which they have contracted and paid on behalf of the WCC. Willie Huff presented a handout showing expenses for contracts with BGA. Mr. Huff explained that at this time MDOT requests to be reimbursed in the amount of \$906,590. Joel Yelverton made a motion to reimburse MDOT in this amount. The motion was seconded by Tom Lariviere, and it passed with none opposed. Mr. Huff abstained from the vote.

Mr. Litchliter stated that in order to expedite the process for approving change orders, the ITS board has given him the authority to approve all change orders up to an aggregate amount of \$10,000,000. Mr. Yelverton inquired about this change not coming before the WCC. Mr. Litchliter explained that this was an ITS procedural issue and, as such, did not require WCC approval. The action taken did not constitute approval or pre-approval of any project change order(s) or funding. This procedural change was done at the request of the WCC Chairman and Project Director due to concerns for potential project delays.

Mr. Litchliter explained that there will be an RFP for various wireless consulting services advertised next Tuesday. Having proposals on hand when the WCC needs a particular consulting service will help to speed up the procurement process. Mr. Yelverton questioned if

the contracts for services will come through the WCC for approval before signing. Mr. Litchliter responded that they would.

Mr. Litchliter stated that there is a need for WCC staff, office space, etc. After a brief discussion on how to hire staff members, Chris Epps made a motion to begin interviewing for positions and to acquire a vehicle for use by project staff. The motion was seconded by Clovis Reed and was approved with none opposed. Mr. Litchliter stated that MDOT has offered office space for the WCC staff members.

Chairman Phillips discussed Senate Bill 3201, which included \$20 million for the WCC project. There was discussion about how limited funding would affect our ability to finalize contract negotiations with Motorola. Senator Robertson stated that additional funding could be considered during a special session later this year, but he stated that \$20 million from Senate Bill 3201 and available federal grant funds should be enough to start the project.

Mr. Huff made a motion to send a resolution to the Legislature to make them aware of the need for full funding. Gary Ladd seconded the motion, and it was approved with none opposed.

Chairman Phillips turned the meeting over to Chris Epps.

Mr. Yelverton reported for the Rules Committee. There was a request from Neshoba County in the amount of \$536,368 for a PSAP console and furniture. Mr. Yelverton made a motion to approve the request. David Litchliter seconded the motion, and it was approved with none opposed. The MS Forestry Commission made a request for 201 handheld radios, but the subcommittee recessed undecided. The MS Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks made a request for 100 GPS transmitters at a cost of \$36,236, plus 200 more if funding becomes available, for a total cost of \$108,750. Mr. Yelverton made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Litchliter seconded the motion, and it passed with none opposed. The City of Gulfport would like to purchase mobile wireless data, which will not interact with the statewide system. They will bring a formal request to the WCC when they have specific project costs. Mr. Yelverton made a motion to allow the City of Gulfport to continue with this project by issuing an RFP. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ladd, and was approved with none opposed.

Clovis Reed reported for the Cellular Committee. ITS sent out a letter informing agencies of impending changes with cell phones and a list of frequently-asked-questions. Cellular South has been meeting with agencies to help plan for the transition process. Cellular South is in the process of building a website to speed the process of ordering equipment.

Willie Huff reported for the Interoperability Committee. There will be a test with Louisiana State Police on May 9th.

There was no report from the Governance Committee.

There was no other business.

The next meeting will be May 3, 2007, at 1:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 2:25 pm.